

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 17 APRIL 2005

You are listening to Amateur Radio Station ZS6SRL of the South African Radio League, the National society for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is broadcast every Sunday at 08:15 Central Africa Time (CAT) in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English.

This bulletin is also available on the website of the SARL at www.sarl.org.za, on packet bulletin boards and on Echolink from Chris, ZS6FCS.

In the news today:

AWARDS PRESENTED AT THE AWARDS FUNCTION PRECEDING THE AGM

CORRECTION TO RESULTS OF PEARS WELCOME TO HF CONTEST

MONDAY 18 APRIL IS WORLD AMATEUR RADIO DAY

SARL IARU FUND BREAKS R5 000 BARRIER

Stay tuned for more detail on these and other news items.

Visit the SARL Web site or call the SARL office, which is open on weekdays from 09:00 to 13:00 at 011 675 2393 for details on how to join, book sales and all related amateur radio activities.

SARL NEWS depends on clubs and individuals for news of interest to radio amateurs. Please place your news items on the web site of the SARL, which is www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date. It would be appreciated if you could do it in both Afrikaans and English, but please double check any all figures very well, the editor can readily correct text but cannot do so with most figures.

You are listening to ZS6SRL and the news follows in detail:

AWARDS PRESENTED AT THE AWARDS FUNCTION PRECEDING THE AGM:

Here follows the names of SARL members to whom awards were presented at the awards function on Friday night which preceded the SARL's AGM on Saturday 9th April:

Willie Wilson Gold Badge to Rassie Erasmus, ZS1YT.

Jack Twine Merit Award to: Rene van Zyl, ZS1VR; Dave Reece, ZS1DFR; Louis van Heerden, ZS1LVH; Peter Hers, ZS6PHD; Colin de Villiers, ZS6COL.

Technical (operating) Awards: the Arthur Hemsley 2 metre Trophy to Lee Hanegraaf, ZS5LEE and the Barney Joel Trophy to John Smith, ZS6AN.

Icom Excellence Awards to: Hal Lund, ZS6WB, and Lee Hanegraaf, ZS5LEE.

Joseph White Plaque to John Sygo, ZS6JON.

Bert Buckley Six metre Trophy to Paul Smit, ZS6NK.

Radio ZS Two Metre Floating Trophy to Lee Hanegraaf, ZS5LEE.

Radio ZS Shield to Mike Bosch, ZS2FM.

JJ Pienaar Trophy to Johan Terblanche, ZS1I.

Gary Immelman RA Heritage Award, the Floating Trophy to Mike Bosch, ZS2FM.

Arland Ussher Gold Pen Award to M S Osman, ZR1SSB, from Parow.

Tinus Lange 7066 Technical Excellence Award to Hans Kappetijn ZS6KR

SARL HF Contest Awards:

Silent Keys Memorial Trophy, SSB, to Barney Fourie, ZS4U. Silent Keys Memorial Trophy, CW, to Barry Brokensha, ZS6AJY, Ed Willers, ZS6UT and Allan Smith, ZS1AAX.

Joseph White Trophy to Barney Fourie, ZS4U.

Fred Mills Trophy to Jan Botha, ZS4JAN.

Anon Trophy to Karel Bezuidenhout, ZS6WN.

HOS Trough to Barney Fourie, ZS4U.

The AKYAB Trophy Not Awarded.

The Club Participation Award (Branch Participant Trophy) to The PRETORIA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB.

Congratulations to all these award winners, may the efforts expended and examples set by you inspire others to make the awards manager's work more difficult next year.

CORRECTION TO RESULTS OF PEARS WELCOME TO HF CONTEST

An error has crept into the results posted last week for the PEARS Welcome To HF QSO Party. One page of a log from Louis Haarhoff, ZR6LH, was missed out during processing, giving Louis now a third-place score of 227 points.

The full results of the ZR section of the contest now read: 1st Place: ZR6STC 575 points, 2nd Place: ZR6JRN 478 points and 3rd Place; ZR6LH 227 points.

The ZS section remains unaffected: 1st Place ZS6ZYM 204 points; 2nd place ZS4JAN 82 points and ZS3AOR 61 points.

These results are now final. Sincere apologies for the error.

MONDAY 18 APRIL IS WORLD AMATEUR RADIO DAY

The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) celebrates its 80th anniversary tomorrow 18 April which is the day on which the international charter was signed in Paris in 1925. 18 April has been dedicated as World Amateur Radio Day and is this year celebrated with the theme “Expanding the World of Wireless Communications.”

IARU President, Larry Price said that Amateur Radio operators have been the leaders in developing many of today’s modern electronic and communications marvels. Today the citizens of Earth can think of “wireless” as being the ubiquitous cellular or portable phone because of the pioneering work in radio and associated technologies first explored by these amateurs. Many leading electrical engineers were able to draw from their practical experiences as Amateur Radio operators as they developed modern radio and television receivers and transmitters including two-way radios, adaptive antennas, and many other inventions that are today’s necessities.

Today’s hams continue to explore new frontiers. Radio Amateurs are finding ways to use frequencies at the fringes of the radio spectrum while developing marriages of radio and the Internet, and experimenting with ultra-high speed digital communications. Ham Radio operators are “amateurs” only because they are unpaid volunteers; their skills and contributions to the world are of the highest order.

In a media release issued today SARL President, Graham Hartlett, ZS6GJH, said that Amateur Radio has proved its value to countries and communities and is by many regarded as a national asset that needs to be protected and grown. While the main activity of Amateur Radio, or Hamradio as it is also referred to, is to promote research and development of radio and communication sciences, it has proved to be a valuable asset in disaster relief operation.

“Amateur Radio is alive and well; and growing. We have turned our focus to bringing young people into the amateur service, as it is officially designated by the ITU, with the main objective of promoting interest in technology at a young age to encourage young people to take up electronics and communication as a career”, Hartlett said. “We are working closely with the Department of Communication to set up amateur radio communication training centres in various parts of South Africa to achieve this objective”.

” With over 3 million radio amateurs in the world, it is significant to note that the major concentration of radio amateurs is in countries that have the most developed electronics industry. We have a long way to go but with the President’s call to develop the Information and Communication Technology sector in South Africa, the South African Radio League will do its share” Graham Hartlett said.

“We are proud members of the IARU and today we celebrate with them the World Amateur Radio Day”.

A full copy of the media release is available on the SARL web, www.sarl.org.za. Clubs are urged to download it today and hand to their local media and radio

stations.

SARL IARU FUND BREAKS R5 000 BARRIER

Time is running out to collect the required amount to pay the IARU membership fee. The current balance is R5 066. This week thanks go to Edwin and Janet Musto for their generous contribution. The target is R13 000 which has to be reached by May when the SARL subscription to the IARU is due. Please make your contribution and help to keep the SARL and South Africa Internationally represented. After making a donation please send a copy of the deposit slip to 012 991 5651 by fax, to saardt@intekom.co.za by email or to PO Box 90438 Garsfontein 0042 by mail. The account number for contributions is ABSA 560 142 722, Menlyn Park, branch code 335 645. Cheques should be made payable to the SA Amateur Radio Development Trust. Full details including a list of donors can be found on www.amateurradio.org.za. Celebrate World Amateur Radio Day by making your contribution.

VK2IMD SPECIAL EVENT STATION

The Hornsby & Districts Amateur Radio Club and the Wahroonga Amateur Historical Radio Association, in Australia, will be operating a special event station for International Marconi Day.

Wahroonga was the location of the first contact between Britain and Australia - between Guglielmo Marconi in Carnarvon, Wales and Ernest Fisk at Wahroonga, New South Wales.

The special station will be active using the callsign VK2IMD for the full 24 hours from 00:00 UTC on 23rd April, on all bands from 80 to 10 metres as propagation permits.

PROPAGATION CONDITIONS

Although propagation conditions were still weak during the past week, there were good conditions for DX. The 20 m band was fairly active on Thursday afternoon, even towards Japan. Good contacts were made to, the Seychelles. It can be ascribed to mildly stormy conditions. It was expected that these conditions would only prevail up to the 14th. The sunspot number reasonably constant during the past week. On Thursday it was 28,9 as against last Sunday's 32,5. Monitor the 20 m band regularly, you will not be disappointed.

DIARY OF EVENTS

17 April, today - 2 m QSO-party in Johannesburg/Pretoria area; 23 April - Special Marconi Day station VK2IMD from 00:00 UTC on the air; 23 April - Celebrate Marconi day on AM with SA AWA on 7 070 kHz from 08:45 CAT; 14 May - AMSATCON 2005; 19 May - Radio Amateur Examination; 31 May - closing date for part 2 of the 2005 Construction Competition.

The SARL invites you to listen on Sundays at 10:00 to Amateur Radio Mirror International on 17 810, 7 205, and 7 082 kHz and many 2 m repeaters in

different areas. A repeat broadcast can be heard on Mondays at 21:00 CAT on 3 215 kHz.

Telkom and Sentech sponsor ARMI.

This then brings us to the end of today's bulletin, which was compiled by George, ZS6NE, and read byfrom..... as a service to radio amateurs, short wave listeners and electronic enthusiasts.

You have been listening to ZS6SRL and thank you for having joined us. Also many thanks to those persons who supply news for our bulletins and the amateurs who relay the bulletins so regularly.

Goodbye everyone.

/EX